<u>Dynamically Binding Subscriber Identity Modules (SIMs)/User Identity Modules</u> (UIMs) With Portable Communication Devices

ABSTRACT

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Communication devices are provided for use in a communication network, where the devices include a control subsystem that forms an electronic linkage between the device and a removeably coupled identity module. The control subsystem receives identification information of device components and the identity module and, in response, dynamically links the device to the identity module by writing the identification information to a binding file along with an assigned device identification corresponding to the device and identity module combination. The binding file is in a memory area of the identity module. The information of the binding file controls subsequent activation and operation of the device in a communication network. Therefore, the control subsystem supports use of a single identity module, for example a Subscriber Identity Module (SIM)/User Identity Module (UIM), among many devices.